Please complete your Annual Chapter Report and submit to the National Office by May 15.

**Date of report submission:** 2016-05-11

**Name of School/College:** South Carolina College of Pharmacy (USC Campus)

**Chapter Name & region:** Gamma Psi – Region III (Mid-Atlantic)

**Delegate who attended the Rho Chi Annual Meeting:** Kimberly Bucher

**Date Delegate’s name submitted:** 2015-03-29

Past year's officers and e-mail addresses

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Historian

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New officers and e-mail addresses for next academic year
(If not yet elected, please indicate date of anticipated election and report names within one week of election)
2016-03-16

New officers and e-mail addresses

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Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address

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**Chapter advisor’s name and e-mail address**

[chapter-advisors]

**Introduction**

The Gamma Psi chapter of Rho Chi is located at the South Carolina College of Pharmacy. Our chapter is split across the Columbia, SC campus and the Charleston, SC campus, but this report focuses on the Columbia chapter's 2015-2016 activities, members, and financial planning, because the two campuses do not share the same activities or budget. Over the past year, our chapter has promoted academic excellence on our campus through both our members initiated in 2015 and our members newly initiated this year.

**Meetings** Please provide information on meetings held in the following tabular format

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Attendance | Agenda | Action Steps |
| 2016-02-27 | Emma Lumpkin, Taylor Barnes, Laura Jane Baker, Jerry McBride, Garrett Whittle, Lauryn Shirley, Caroline Powers, Lauren Freeman, Jennifer Garrett, Alexis Boso, Justin Gardo, Angela Giles, Caroline Goldston, Jan Enabore, Sarah Ostenfeld, John Schoonover, Thomas Beam, William Franks, Thao Vu, Beth Michaels, Victoria Hagen, Kelly Owens, Parth Parikh | Induct new members into Rho Chi | Initiate members and pass out pins and certificates of membership |
| 2016-03-16 | Emma Lumpkin, Taylor Barnes, Jerry McBride, Laura Jane Baker, Lauren Freeman, Garrett Whittle, Caroline Powers, Lauryn Shirley, Angela Giles, Jennifer Garrett, William Franks, Alexis Boso, Jan Enabore, Sarah Ostenfeld, Olivia Kluesener, Parth Parikh | Welcome new members to Rho Chi, vote on new officer positions | Voting on new officer positions |
| 2016-04-07 | Emma Lumpkin, Taylor Barnes, Laura Jane Baker, Jerry McBride, Garrett Whittle, Lauryn Shirley, Caroline Powers, Lauren Freeman, Jennifer Garrett, Alexis Boso, Justin Gardo, Angela Giles, Caroline Goldston, Jan Enabore, Sarah Ostenfeld, John Schoonover, Thomas Beam, William Franks, Thao Vu, Beth Michaels, Victoria Hagen, Kelly Owens, Parth Parikh | Review Rho Chi mission, introduce new members to Rho Chi website and annual report, plan fundraising events for fall 2016, plan adding Rho Chi to university's GarnetGate portal | Begin working on Rho Chi Annual Report, plan fall 2016 fundraiser events |
|  |  |  |  |

**Strategic Planning:** What goals were set that relate to the Rho Chi mission?

The goals of this chapter that we attempted to achieve during the 2015-2016 school year included piloting a paid tutoring program for P1 students on our campus, fundraising for our new member initiation banquet, and continuing to promote high academic performance from our members and our entire student body. Our members were involved in a residency series, where they worked with other organizations on campus to welcome a residency director and several PGY1 and PGY2 residents from the Southeast to speak with pharmacy students about post-graduate residency programs. Because our paid tutoring program didn't pan out as well as we'd hoped, we will suspend the stipend from USC, but will continue to make it a priority to host a successful tutoring program for P1 students. We would like to fundraise more aggressively this coming year to host another great induction banquet for new members. We plan to continue working with other organizations on campus to host the residency series of spring 2017, and hope to take a more active role in the planning of this event next year. We will continue to promote the awareness of academic excellence on campus both at P1 orientation in August and throughout the year through our tutoring program. We would like to develop a more structured transition protocol to make the transition for Rho Chi officers seamless next year, as outgoing officers go onto rotations and can be difficult to coordinate with.

**Activities**

Tutoring
The paid tutoring program that the Gamma Psi chapter piloted this fall did not develop enough interest to continue into the coming school year. Our chapter will continue to do the tutoring, but the Rho Chi members who lead these sessions will not be paid for their time. However, fall 2015 tutoring was so popular that Rho Chi was able to continue tutoring P1 students in the spring semester. We would like to implement some new policies regarding the tutoring program at our campus. We hope to put the tutoring sessions closer to each exam in order to gain attendance at these meetings, and will also suspend the requirement that P1 students submit a specific question prior to attendance at the tutoring sessions. Each Rho Chi member led at least one or two tutoring sessions each semester, and signed up for a time and subject at the beginning of the semester. We will continue this practice next year, to give everyone ample time and notice on what subject and section of material they'll cover in their tutoring session(s).

Residency Series
This unique, two-part event brought together members of Rho Chi and Student Society of Health System Pharmacists, two organizations that promote academic and professional achievement in the hospital setting. We worked with SSHP to bring a pharmacy residency director, Dr. Angie Veverka, from Carolina's Medical Center, to our campus to speak with students interested in applying to the residency match during their P4 year. She answered many questions from students regarding the process of applying for residencies, the interview procedures, and how the match system works. This seminar was held on March 16, 2016. To encourage attendance by students, this event was approved by administrators for career mentor credit, a mandatory requirement for all students each semester. A few weeks later, SSHP and Rho Chi held a second residency seminar with current PGY1 and PGY2 students to get another perspective on the process of applying, interviewing, and actually doing a residency. This second session was held on April 6, 2016. Rho Chi catered the meal for this second meeting in the series.

Fundraising
The 2015-2016 president, Jan Enabore, requested money for our induction banquet from an executive within CVS, where he is employed as an intern. They generously donated to our chapter in order to sponsor our banquet to induct new members. We also received donations from USC in order to cover last year's induction banquet and the faculty meals at this year's induction banquet. In the coming school year, we have plans to more vigorously fundraise. We hope to sell reusable grocery bags at the incoming P1 White Coat Ceremony in August, as well as potentially host bake sales at least once a semester on our campus.

**Financial Budgeting**

The 2015-2016 budget was focused on paying for the induction banquet hosted at the Columbia Marriott in February. At the start of the 2015-2016 school year, we had $2,095.26 in the account. We paid for our national dues and fees early in the year (totaling $845), and then received payments from each new member of $100 each, totaling $1300. This amount varies by year, depending on the number of students inducted each year. Because our chapter is split across two campuses, each campus gets a different number of new members, depending on which campus had more students that met the GPA requirement for induction into Rho Chi. We allowed each new member to bring one guest to the induction banquet free of charge, and charged each new member $25 per additional guest at the banquet. This earned the chapter $225 total. The University of South Carolina Controller's Office reimbursed faculty meals for the banquet, and the University of South Carolina Education Foundation provided a donation to support last year's induction banquet (2014-2015 school year). These two donations from USC combined totaled $900, and helped tremendously to pay for this year's banquet. The total cost of the induction banquet, which included both the venue and the catering for the event, was $1,872.96. At the end of this year, we had $2,047.30. We hope to make a more fundraising-centric budget for the coming school year, and focus on selling SCCP items at the White Coat Ceremony, hosting a bake sale at least once each semester, and hosting at least one percent night each semester. We are lucky to have both a fundraising chair and a treasurer in our chapter, so these individuals will need to work closely to establish a budget plan for this coming year, and keeping meticulous records of money spent and deposited.

**Installation Function**

The 2016 new member induction banquet took place on February 27, 2016 at the Columbia Marriott, at 630 Assembly St. in downtown Columbia. Each new member was allowed to bring one guest to the banquet free of charge, and could bring as many additional guests as they would like for $25 per guest. We paid to have the banquet catered by the hotel itself, and the banquet buffet line included chicken marsala, vegetable lasagna, bread, salad, and cheesecake. Mike Ross, an RPh. and the mayor of the town of Blythewood, was our banquet speaker. He spoke at length about what a wonderful honor induction into Rho Chi is, and brought humor and cheer to this event. Our chapter provided a gift for Mayor Ross for his time, which we included in the budget as part of the cost of the banquet. After each new member received their certificate and pin, we took several group photos of both the entire chapter and the new initiates. It was a great event, and everyone enjoyed spending a night with family and friends celebrating academic achievement.

**Evaluation/Reflection**

Tutoring
The paid tutoring program was great in theory, but in practice was unsustainable, because the supply of tutors outweighed the demand of P1 students. After lengthy discussion about what we could do to better the tutoring program, we've decided to change the requirements for attendance at each tutoring session. From now on, P1 students do not have to submit a specific exam-related question in order to attend a tutoring session, and instead may attend whichever sessions they'd like; the Rho Chi member will be responsible for reviewing the material of that exam prior to hosting the tutoring session and will review general concepts, leaving time for more specific questions towards the end of the session. Sessions will also be held as close as possible to the exam date, whenever possible. Each Rho Chi member will be responsible for signing up for at least 2 tutoring sessions at the beginning of the semester, and reviewing the material for those sessions prior to leading them. We really enjoy having the tutoring as part of our chapter's activities, but need to capitalize on the demand for tutoring in a different format than it was provided this past year.

Fundraising
We were lucky this past year to receive donations from several sources; however, this caused us to be less vigorous with our fundraising efforts than we originally planned. We did not host a formal fundraiser on campus this year, and would like to more formally organize fundraisers this coming year. Currently, our plans for this coming fall include making reusable grocery shopping bags to sell at the White Coat Ceremony in August, planning at least one bake sale to host on campus, and hosting at least one percent night off campus and inviting members of the entire pharmacy school to attend. With our fundraising chair and treasurer working closely, we hope to raise funds for next year's induction banquet without relying on outside donations. We will continue to require a $100 fee for new members, and will likely continue the same guest policy (1 free guest, and each additional guest = $25) in the future, but may have to alter this policy slightly depending on budget status at that point in the year.

Residency Series
This series is unique to our campus and our program. Our partnership with SSHP was smooth and successful, and both sessions of the series were enjoyable to students and had sizable attendance. We hope to take an even more active role in this series next year, working closely with officers of SSHP to secure a residency program speaker and several current residents for another two-part series in the spring of 2017. We hope to get the first session approved as a career mentor event again next year, because this boosted attendance. We also plan to provide food for students who attend the second session of the series to boost attendance there as well.

Alumni Database
This past year, we decided that we'd like to instate a new project in our chapter of making a list of former members of Rho Chi and documenting their contact information, so that we would have access to many successful pharmacists, for networking purposes and to request donations in the future. This will be a multi-year undertaking, where we reach out to recent classes of Rho Chi members and ask for the names of all the former members of each class. We will have to work hard to get the contact information and names of at least the past few classes, but will start a formal book to document their names and contact information, which will continue to be preserved for the future chapter.

Other
This past year we did not attempt the book club that our chapter hosted in years past, but we would consider re-instating this program if student interest had grown substantially enough to merit it.

**Other Information**

The University of South Carolina has recently instated a website to help facilitate communication between student organizations, called GarnetGate. Over the next year, we hope to develop our GarnetGate page and begin effectively using it to coordinate with other organizations. This will be a big undertaking for at least one dedicated m